

Manning Tenant Council

237 Franklin Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

October 19, 2015

To the Honorable, the City Council
City of Cambridge
795 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

RE: Proposed City Council Action related to the Manning Ground Lease

Dear Honorable Councilors:

We are writing on behalf of the Manning Tenant Council to urge a yes vote to approve an amendment to the ground lease between the Cambridge Housing Authority and the City of Cambridge for the Manning Apartments.

We have been working with the Cambridge Housing Authority to plan the much needed improvements to Manning Apartments for many years. Since early 2014, we have had 26 meetings with the Cambridge Housing Authority to discuss the design plans, to see mock-up designs, and to plan for relocation of residents during the construction period. While we don't look forward to the disruptions of construction, we do know the building needs significant repairs and renovations and are glad that funds are finally available to allow the work to go forward.

We understand that the amendment to the ground lease is an important step to allowing the CHA to raise the funds to renovate Manning Apartments. We also appreciate that the amendment will allow for the redesign of the Dr. Martin Luther King Plaza which is also much needed. We appreciate your approval of the proposed amendment which will help preserve our homes today and for future low-income elderly and disabled persons.

Sincerely,



Manning Tenant Council Board on behalf of
The Manning Tenant Council